

Wisconsin Food Stamp Program At a Glance

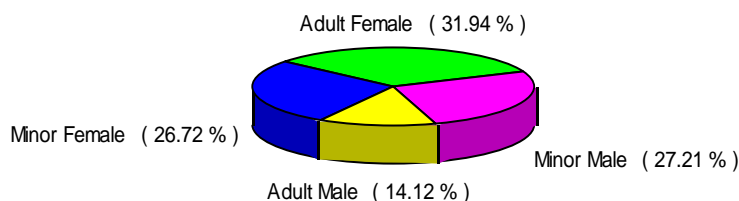
All data is for (or as of) the month of [March](#), 2003¹

Who gets food stamps in Wisconsin?

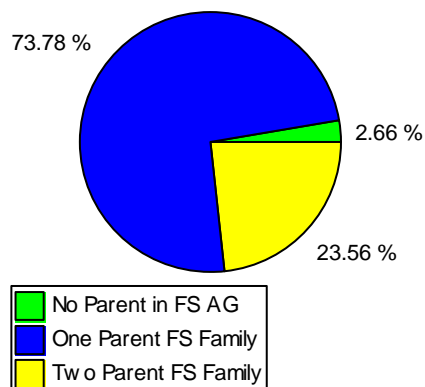
- **Poverty:** 5.5% of the 5.4 million people in Wisconsin receive FS.² On average from 1998 - 2000, 8.8% of the state population was at or below the federal poverty rate.³
- **Assistance Groups (AG's)/Individuals:** 120,264 Assistance groups are made up of 297,309 individuals. The number of AG's continues to increase at a steady rate. There are an average of 2.5 people in an AG.

- **Gender:** 59% of the recipients are female and 41% are male.
- **Adults/Minors:** 46% are adults while 54% are minors. 59.5% of AG's have minors in them.

Adult Status and Gender



- **Minors and Their Parents:** Of the AG's that contain minors, 73.8% have one parent in the AG, 23.5% have two parents, and 2.7% have no parents in the household. "Parent" is defined as a biological or adoptive parent.
- **Parents That Are Minors:** 1,015 minors in 990 FS AG's are parents. That's 1/3 of 1 percent of the individuals that receive FS.

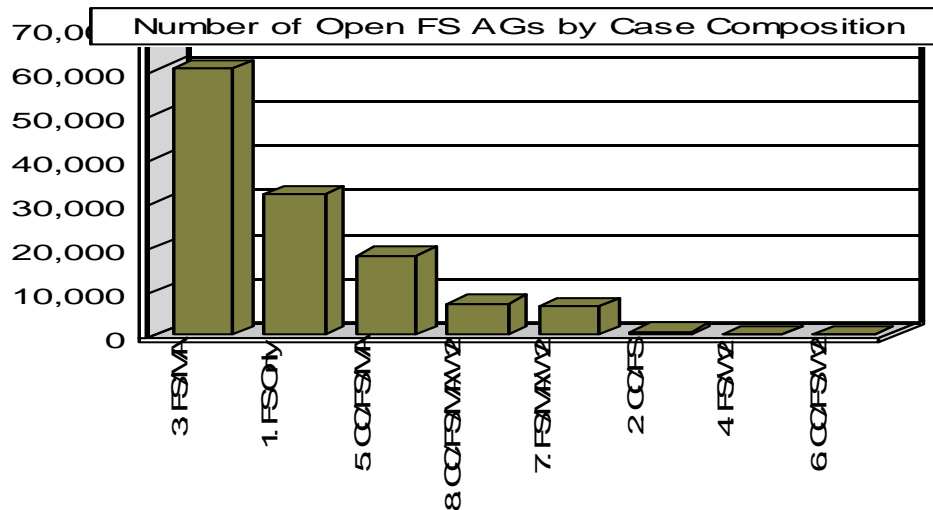


¹ Source: DWD/DWS FS Data Warehouse

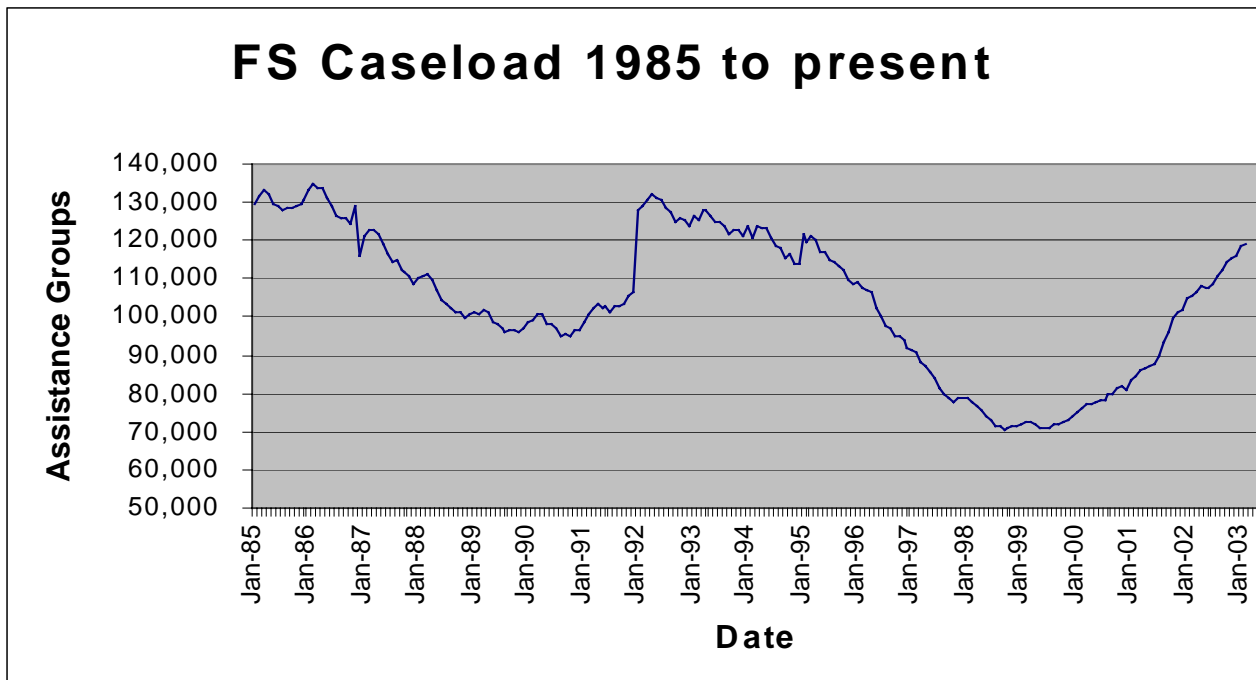
² Source: U.S. Census Bureau, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/55000.html>

³ Source: U. S. Census Bureau <http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/p60-214.pdf>

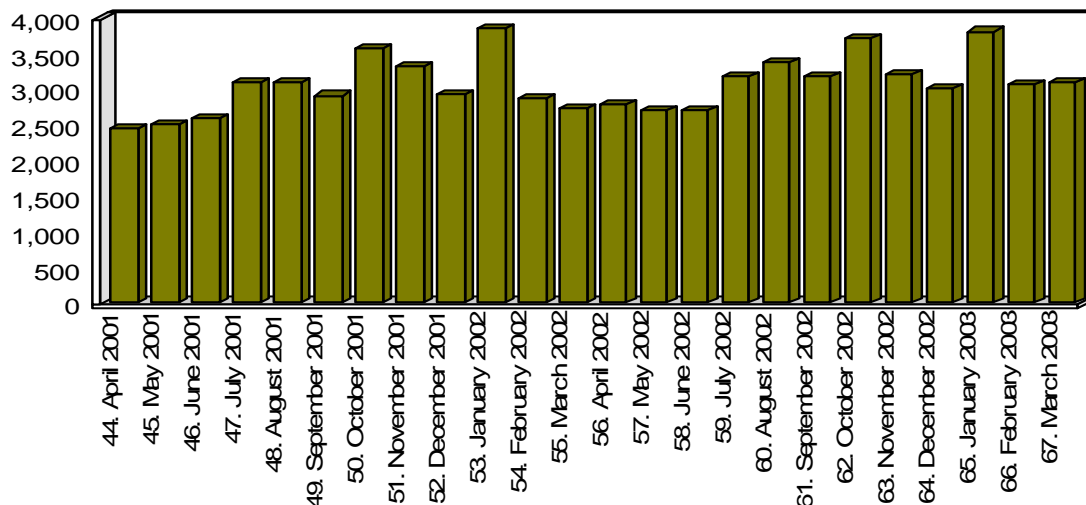
- **Case Composition:** The graph on the right shows other types of CARES issued assistance that a FS AG receives.



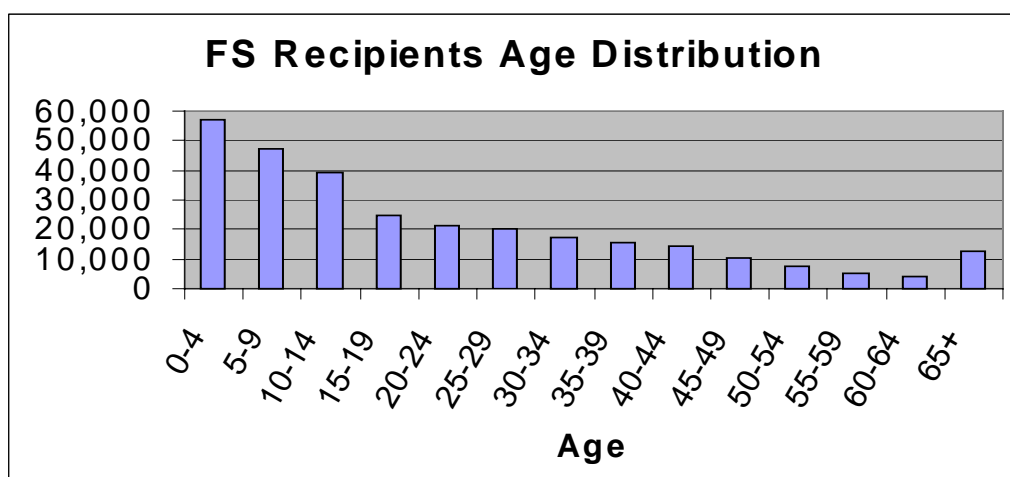
- **Historical Caseload Trend:** The statewide caseload had been increasing at a steady rate since September of 1999.



- First Time FS Recipients:** This chart shows the number of first-time FS assistance groups over the last 2 years. Only cases that have never received FS in Wisconsin before the month shown appear in this chart. For March 2003, 3,099 FS AG's received FS for the first time.



- Age Distribution:** The chart below shows the number of FS recipients by age, in ranges of 5 years. The largest age group is comprised of children under age 4 which make up nearly 20% of recipients. 55% are age 18 and under.



- **Elderly/Disabled:** 17% of FS recipients are either elderly, blind, or disabled. 40.6% of AG's contain at least one individual that is either elderly, blind, or disabled.
- **Work/Earnings:** 16.3% of the AG's have at least one person working. This is a decrease of .3% from last month. The average monthly earned income of those AG's' is \$965, a 0.8% decrease from last month.⁴ 32.6% of adult FS recipients are employed, slightly more than last month. Currently, the unemployment rate in Wisconsin is 5.5%, .2% more than last month.⁵



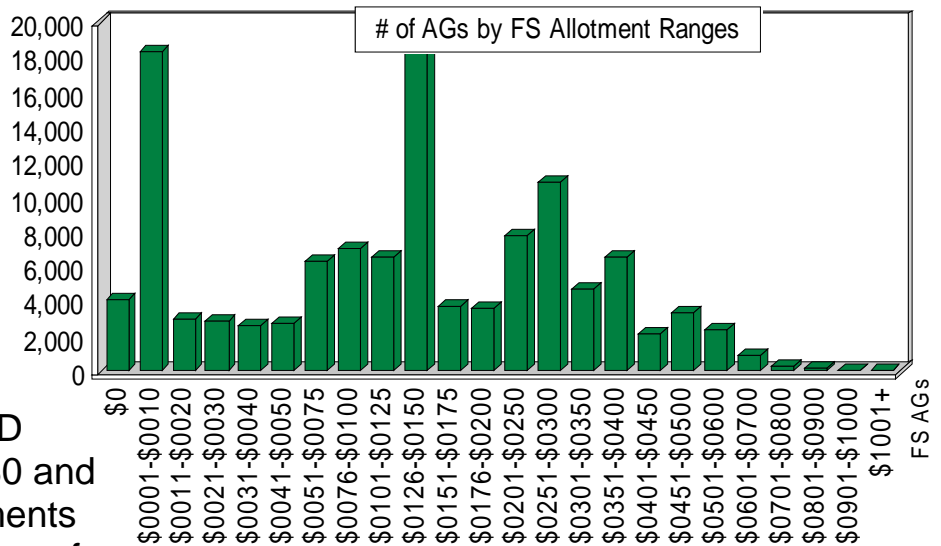
- **Working Families:** A "working family" is defined as a FS AG that contains at least one minor, at least one parent of a minor, and at least one employed recipient. This is an attempt to explore those FS recipients that have children and are working. Working families make up 27.5% of the statewide FS AG's, and average about 4 persons per AG, these working families average \$1,132 in earned income per month.

Parent in FS AG	FS AGs	Unduplicated FS Recipients	AG Earned Income Amt	Avg. Earned Income per AG	AG Unearned Income Amt	Avg. Unearned Income per AG	FS Allotment Amt - FTM	Avg. Allotment per AG
One Parent FS Family	23,345	75,049	\$24,719,948.78	\$1,058.90	\$4,656,378.11	\$199.46	\$3,888,911.00	\$166.58
Two Parent FS Family	9,572	45,896	\$12,566,230.64	\$1,312.81	\$2,076,469.57	\$216.93	\$2,421,581.00	\$252.99
Sum:	32,917	120,945	\$37,286,179.42		\$6,732,847.68	Sum:	\$6,310,492.00	

⁴ This statistic contains prospective income for cases that may have caused the case to close at the end of the report month. Therefore, the income reported here was not necessarily the income used to calculate eligibility for the allotment amount.

⁵ Source: DWD Labor Market Information at http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi/employ_civilianlaborForce.htm

- Allotments:** A total of \$19.6 million in food stamp benefits were allotted for the month. The average allotment amount per AG is \$163. The average allotment for AG's that contain an elderly, blind, or disabled member is \$99. However, 34% of the EBD AG's receives between \$0 and \$10 in allotments. Allotments have increased an average of 15.6% in the last 12 benefit months.



- Statewide FS Allotments:** The graph on the right shows the total dollars in FS allotments spent on all FS AG's statewide for the past two years.

